

## Appendix B2 – NFMA Forest Plan Prototype – Lisa Freedman



### Project Objectives

- Demonstrate the proposed NFMA regulation
- Design a prototype Forest Plan that is more strategic, easier to prepare and understand
- Focus on desired conditions
- Model after other strategic plans (county plans, organizational plans)
- Use web technology and link with maps

### Elements of a Strategic Model

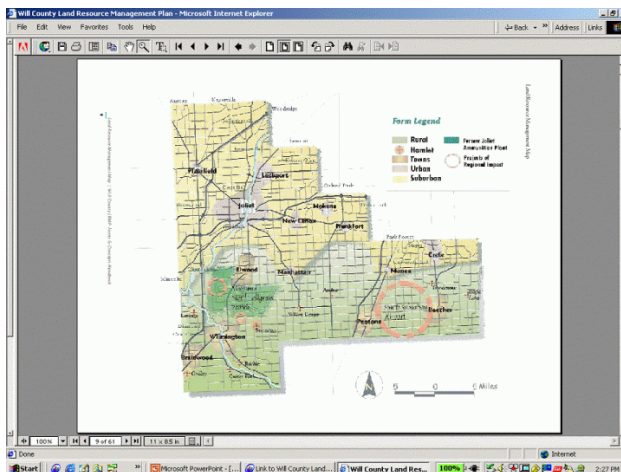
Mission  
Vision  
Strategy  
Tactics  
Projects

### County Planning Trends

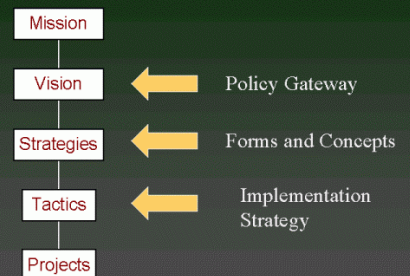
Michael Chandler, Virginia Tech

- Vision driven
- Based on themes
- Collaborative efforts
- Regional focus
- Beyond paper

<http://www.plannersweb.com/articles/work31.html>



### Where County Planning Fits



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### NFMA Planning

Proposed Rule 36 CFR 219.4(a)

#### Decisions

- **Desired Conditions** (Direction, Primary Purpose)
- **Objectives** (Time-specific, measurable outcomes)
- **Suitable Uses** (Broad and general identification)
- **Standards** (Permissions or limitations)
- **Special Area Designations**
- **Monitoring Requirements**

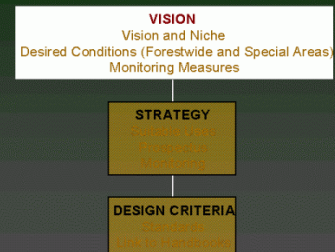
### Where NFMA Planning Fits



### Proposed Forest Planning Prototype



### Proposed Forest Planning Prototype



#### Forestwide Desired Condition:

Ponderosa pine will be managed to emulate conditions representative of a nonlethal understory fire regime.



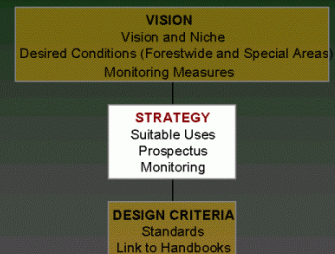
#### Evaluation question:

How closely do actual stand conditions emulate the desired fire regime?

#### Monitoring measure:

Acres in each basal area size class;  
Average tons/acre of understory fuel.

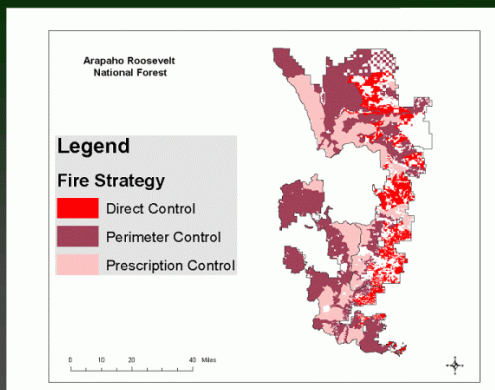
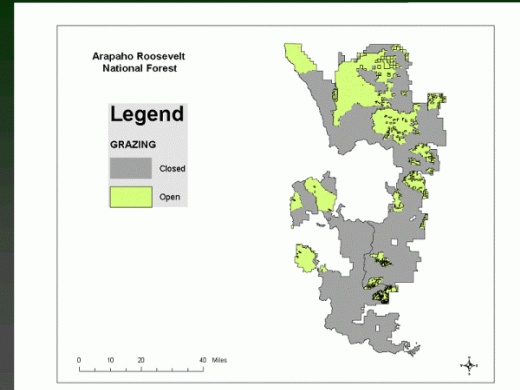
### Proposed Forest Planning Prototype



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### Suitable Uses by Land Class Zones

Use	Special Designation	Ecological Processes Emphasis	Renewable Resource Use Emphasis	Primary Recreation Emphasis	Ecological/ Residential Interface	Developed Areas
Timber Harvest	Not Suitable	Not Suitable	Suitable	Not Suitable	Not Suitable	Not Suitable
Livestock Grazing	Not Suitable	Suitable	Suitable	Suitable	Not Suitable	Not Suitable
Summer Motorized Recreation	Not Suitable	Suitable	Suitable	Suitable	Not Suitable	Not Suitable
Summer Non-Motorized Recreation	Suitable	Suitable	Suitable	Suitable	Suitable	Suitable
Oil and Gas D/Impnt	Not Suitable	Suitable	Suitable	Suitable	Not Suitable	Not Suitable



### Prospectus Part of Strategy

- “forest planning...models were not intended by their developers to provide precise information. Rather they were intended to provide indications of direction of change, rough estimates of the magnitude of change, and the time frames surrounding such change”

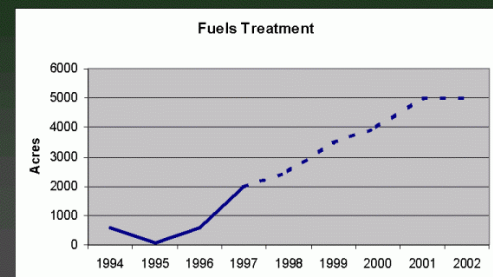
– (Jack Ward Thomas, *Wildlife in Old-growth Forests*, Forest Watch, Jan/Feb 1992)

### Prospectus

- Outcome focused
- Levels of experiences, goods and services
- Past trends related to future expectations
- Performance risks disclosed

#### Example: Fuel Reduction

The number of high risk/high value, and high and moderate risk acres will be reduced. Both mechanical and prescribed fire treatments may be used.



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### Performance Risks

- Risks related to the natural environment
  - Fire, disease, insect or other disturbances
  - Species receiving special management emphasis which could experience a change in status
- Risks related to the institutional environment
  - Budgets different than original projections
  - National or regional strategic initiatives which may emerge in response to broad-scale issue
- Risks due to scientific uncertainty
  - Current information is inconclusive
  - Interrelationships between resources is uncertain
  - Models have limitations

### Proposed Forest Planning Prototype



### Standards

Proposed 36 CFR 219.4(a)(3)

- Permissions or limitations applicable to land uses and management actions
- Example: Provide 20 acre buffers around active nest sites



Component	Scale	Public Participation	Relationship to Other Plan Components	Cycle
Vision	Planning Unit	Collaborative; Pre-NEPA; NFMA Requirements	Can be developed independent of other components, but logically builds on previous Strategy or plan	Long (10-20 years)
Strategy	Planning Unit	Collaborative; Appropriate NEPA (SIR, CE, EA, or EIS)	Depends on Vision for context and incorporates Design Criteria by reference	Short (3-5 years)
Design Criteria	Regional or Sub-Regional or Unit	APA Notice and Comment; Science Consistency; NFMA Requirements	Can be developed independent of other components	Medium (5-10 years)

### Vision Development

- Collaboratively developed
- One vision, but broad and inclusive
- Not choosing among discrete alternatives
- Choices consistent with shared values
- Look for refinements to improve a proposal
- Comment period, objection process

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### Strategy Development

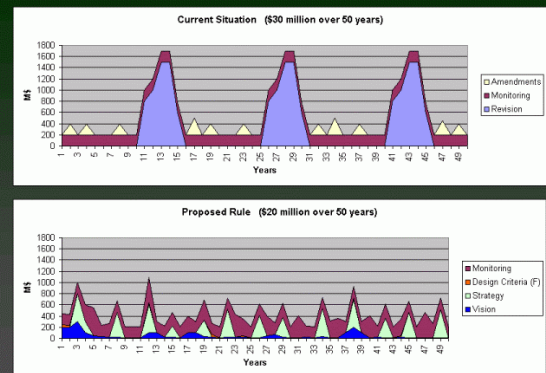
- Vision as context
- Design Criteria as reference
- Appropriate NEPA

### Design Criteria Development

- Regional, Sub-Regional or Forest
- Science consistency
- Notice and comment
- Objection process

### Monitoring

- Monitoring of each plan component will lead to adaptive changes
- Adapting to contingencies makes more sense than trying to make perfect predictions of environmental effects



### Implications for Diversity Analysis

